

REMARKS

The present application is a divisional of co-pending parent U.S. application serial no. 09/950,625. By the present preliminary amendment, the specification is amended to clarify the status of the present application as a divisional application.

Further, the original claims submitted in the present new divisional application differ from the claims in the parent application. Specifically, original claims 1-3 in the present new divisional application are all directed to a mixing device, and those claims differ from the claims in the parent of the present application. New claims 1-3 are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter.

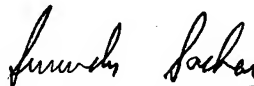
The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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